

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0744

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/80

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: 11 FEB NPG STAFF GOUP MEETING

REF: (A) USNATO 00504; (B) STATE 027117

BEGIN SUMMARY: AT 11 FEB MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) DISCUSSED DRAFT PERM REPS REPORT ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE STUDY OF IMPLICATIONS OF NEW WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY. SG ACCEPTED REVISIONS PROPOSED BY THE US (PER REF (B)) WITH TWO MODIFICATIONS INDICATED IN PARA 1 BELOW. MISSION PROPOSES TO AGREE TO HANDLING OF THE REPORT BY THE SILENCE PROCEDURE UNLESS WASHINGTON INSTRUCTS OTHERWISE PRIOR TO 18 FEB SG MEETING. SG MEMBERS DID NOT RAISE THE SUBJECT OF MODIFICATIONS IN US STRATEGIC TARGETING POLICY. END SUMMARY

1. AT 11 FEB MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) DISCUSSED THE DRAFT PERM REPS REPORT ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE STUDY OF IMPLICATIONS OF NEW TECHNOLOGY (REF (A)). SG ACCEPTED REVISIONS PROPOSED BY US REP (REF (B)) WITH TWO MODIFICATIONS: A) THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 3, REF A, WAS RETAINED, CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT REVISED TO READ, "THE GROUP HAS WIDE DISCRETION TO ARRANGE ITS OWN DETAILED WORKING PROCEDURES."

B) PARAS 8 AND 9 OF REF A WERE COMBINED, AND

REVISED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE: THE FORM, CONTENT, FREQUENCY AND TIMING OF THE SUBMISSION OF THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY EFFORT ARE LEFT TO THE DISCRETION OF THE STUDY GROUP. THE GROUP SHOULD CONSIDER PROVIDING REPORTS TO THE NPG ON SELECTED ISSUES DURING THE COURSE OF ITS WORK. SIMILARLY, THE GROUP SHOULD FEEL FREE TO MAKE PROPOSALS TO THE NPG AT ANY TIME FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION FALLING OUTSIDE THE GROUP'S IMMEDIATE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. THE GROUP SHOULD ALSO MAKE PERIODIC WRITTEN REPORTS TO THE NPG ON THE STATUS OF ITS WORK, ON THE SUBJECT MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION AND INFORMATION, AS PRACTICABLE, ON ITS FUTURE PLANS. THE GROUP SHOULD SUBMIT THESE PERIODIC STATUS REPORTS AT LEAST A MONTH BEFORE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS. END QUOTE. COMMENT: MISSION BELIEVES THAT THE US CAN ACCEPT THESE MODIFICATIONS.

2. SG CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT THE NPG PERM REPS COULD APPROVE THE DRAFT PERM REPS REPORT BY THE SILENCE PROCEDURE OR AT A FORMAL MEETING. HE PROPOSED TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION AT NEXT SG MEETING ON 18 FEB, AND THEN CIRCULATE A REVISED DRAFT OF THE REPORT FOR APPROVAL IN CAPITALS. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION FAVORS APPROVAL OF THIS ESSENTIALLY PRO FORMA REPORT BY THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. WE PROPOSE TO AGREE TO THIS PROCEDURE UNLESS WASHINGTON PROVIDES OTHER INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO 18 FEB.

3. NORWAY WISHES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STUDY OF NEW TECHNOLOGY. THE GREEK REP SAID HE EXPECTS TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS ON PARTICIPATION IN THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS.

4. SG MEMBERS DID NOT RAISE THE SUBJECT OF MODIFICATIONS IN US STRATEGIC TARGETING POLICY. MCAULIFFE

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